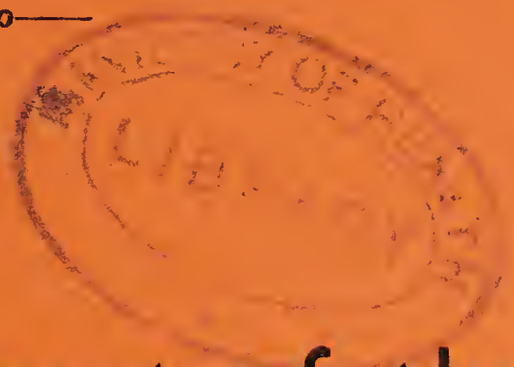
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Rugeley Urban District Council



Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

together with the Report of the

Public Health Inspector

★

Year 1955

The Benhill Press Limited, Rugeley, Staffs.

Rugeley Urban District Council

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

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Public Health Inspector

Year 1955

To The Rugeley Urban District Council . . .

Madam & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1955.

The Birth and Death rates compare favourably with the National rates, but the Infantile Mortality rate and Still Birth rate are higher.

No major epidemic occurred during the year, and only measles occurred to any great extent, this being one of its biennial "peak" years.

Diphtheria immunisation has once again shown its value, no cases of Diphtheria having occurred in immunised children for over 10 years. The good response is largely due to the excellent work of the Health Visitor for the District.

During the year 20 Council houses and 19 Private houses have been built and occupied.

While this compares favourably with similar districts, I feel that provision must be made for elderly or childless couples, in future housing programmes, by building two or three apartment dwellings, to avoid using four and five apartment houses uneconomically, and to expedite the demolition programme.

I must thank the members of the Council and their Staff for their co-operation and courtesy.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health.—Charles Fleming, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., who is also Assistant County Medical Officer to the Staffordshire County Council, and Medical Officer of Health to the Tutbury Rural District Council.

Public Health Inspector.—J. T. G. Craddock, C.S.I.B., C.F.I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area of the District	2882 acres
Registrar General's estimate of resident population	11,120
Rateable Value	£50,203
Sum represented by a penny rate	£193 18 10
Number of houses inhabited at the end of 1955	3,407

VITAL STATISTICS

	Total		M.		F.	
	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
Live Births	204	261	104	124	100	137
Legitimate	201	246	103	115	98	131
Illegitimate	3	15	1	9	2	6

Live Births per 1,000 estimated population	23.47
Corrected for age and sex distribution	23.24
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales ...	15.0

	Total		M.		F.	
	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
Stillbirths	3	9	1	8	2	1
Legitimate	3	9	1	8	2	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—	—	—	—

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 population	0.81
Stillbirth Rate for England and Wales	0.34

	Total		M.		F.	
	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
Deaths	102	95	58	50	44	45

Death Rate per 1,000 population	8.54
Corrected for age and sex distribution	9.40
Death Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales	11.7
Deaths from Cancer	16
Deaths from Measles	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	2
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	1

INFANTILE MORTALITY

(Under 1 year of age)

	Total		M.		F.	
	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
Deaths	13	8	9	4	4	4
Legitimate	13	8	9	4	4	4
Illegitimate	—	—	—	—	—	—

	1954	1955
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	63.72	30.65
England and Wales	25.5	24.9

	M.		F.	
	1955	1954	1955	1954
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks				
Total	1	9	1	2
Legitimate	1	9	1	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—	—

Nes Natal Mortality Rate	17.3
Nes Natal Mortality Rate for England and Wales ...	30.65

Maternal Mortality

ONE death from puerperal causes was registered.

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Immunisation against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough

Immunisation has been carried out as before at the Infant Welfare Centre and among entrants to Infants Schools.

The records are in the charge of the Area Medical Officer and doubtless will be commented on in his Annual Report.

Diphtheria (Figures for 1954 in brackets)

Primary Immunisations: Under 5—99 (126), Over 5—68 (31).
Reinforcing Doses: 210 (47).

Whooping Cough: 99 (111).

The following table shows the remarkable drop in the number of cases of Diphtheria since immunisation was introduced on a national scale in 1942:—

Year	Deaths	Corrected Notifications
1940	—	46,281 (uncorrected)
1945	722	18,596
1950	49	962
1951	33	664
1952	32	376
1953	23	266
1954	9	173
1955	11 provisional	161 provisional

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1954

	Cases Notified 1954	Cases Notified 1955	Total Deaths 1954	Total Deaths 1955
Scarlet Fever	6	9	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	4	2	—	—
Measles	1	135	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	—	1	1	—
Cerbro Spinal Fever	1	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis—				
Non-paralytic	—	2	—	—
Paralytic	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever "B"	1	—	—	—
Dysentery	5	2	—	—
Meningococcal Meningitis	1	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	5	—	—
Gastro-Enteritis	—	5	—	5

Analysis of Infectious Diseases classified according to age

Age Groups ...	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 and over	Age unknown
Whooping Cough ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	1	2	5	—	—	1	—
Poliomyelitis (Non-paralytic)	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Measles ...	5	23	27	63	2	—	1	14

	Under 5	5-14	15-44	45-64	65 and over	Age unknown
Meningococcal Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastro Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	3
Dysentery ...	1	—	1	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	2	1	—	2
Ac. Pneumonia	—	—	—	1	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS

At the end of 1955 there were 72 cases (1954—65) on register.

MALES		FEMALES	
Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
25 (25)	14 (17)	23 (14)	10 (9)

No deaths from T.B. occurred during the year.

The rate of 6.47 per thousand population compares favourably with that for Country as a whole, 9.6 per 1,000 (1954).

DEATHS FROM CANCER for the year ended Dec. 31st, 1955

	Age Groups								
	Under 26	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	66-75	75-85	Over 85	Totals
Males ...	—	—	—	1	2	2	4	—	9
Females ...	—	1	—	—	1	2	3	—	7

HOUSING ACT 1936

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953

UNFIT HOUSES

During the year the following 10 houses were demolished in the District:—

Bishop, The Hayes, Brereton.
Burgess, The Hayes, Brereton.
Kent, The Hayes, Brereton.
Houghton, The Hayes, Brereton.
Sherratt, The Hayes, Brereton.
Holland, The Levels, Brereton.
Washbrook's Structure, Hednesford Road.
Vicarage Cottage, Brereton.
Pear Tree Cottage Hednesford Road.
Pear Tree Inn, Hednesford Road.

During the year the following houses were closed as a result of proceedings under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953.

Hayes, Farmhouse, Brereton.
Bradbury, Main Road, Brereton.
Southwell, Main Road, Brereton.
Davis, Batesway, Brereton.
Richards, Batesway, Brereton.

Unfit houses still in occupation at 31st December, 1955 (Including houses dealt with to April, 1956)

The following 32 dwellings (in respect of which the Council have put on Demolition Orders or Closing Orders, or accepted Undertakings not to relet) are still in occupation:—

Owens, Brereton Fields, October, 1939 ... Demolition
Coughlin, Brereton Fields, October, 1939 ... ,,
1 Brook Square, (part) 15th February, 1946 ... Closing Order
Threadgold, Love Lane, 22nd Feb., 1953 ... Undertaking

17 Sheep Fair, 22nd February, 1953	Undertaking
78 Sheep Fair, 30th March, 1951	,,
Tanner, The Hayes, 1st December, 1953 ...	,,
Slade Cottage, The Hayes, 11th Feb., 1954 ...	Closing Order
13 Green Lane, 6th May, 1954	Undertaking
Lower Birches Farm house, 3rd April, 1954 ...	,,
Lowe, The Levels, Brereton, 11th Feb., 1954	Closing Order
9 Sandy Lane, 9th August, 1946	Undertaking
3 Brook Square (Top Flat) 18th Dec., 1946 ...	,,
Parr, 86 Talbot Street, 15th Oct., 1955 ...	,,
J. W. Harvey, Glovers Hill, 22nd Nov., 1955 ...	,,
J. Molineux, Glovers Hill, 22nd Nov., 1955 ...	,,
Sullivan, 11 Market Square, 18th Jan., 1956 ...	Closing Order
Greatrix, 20 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956 ...	Demolition
Holloway, 24 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956 ...	,,
Elsmore, 26 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956 ...	,,
Silcock, 28 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956 ...	,,
Bentley, 30 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956 ...	,,
Collum, 34 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956 ...	,,
Middleton, 36 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956 ...	,,
Wilson, 38 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956 ...	,,
Lycett, 46 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956 ...	,,
Sharrard, 48 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956 ...	,,
Birch, 58 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956 ...	,,
J. Gough, 1 Wharf Road, 18th April, 1956 ...	Closing Order
Barber, 9 Market Square, 18th April, 1956 ...	,,
Eaton Lodge Cottage, Wolsely Rd., 18th Apl., 1956	,,
Whitehouse, 1 Selwyn Place	Verbal Undertaking

Unfit houses not occupied 31st December, 1955

The following 15 Dwelling Houses are not occupied for human habitation but are subject to Demolition Orders, Closing Orders, or Undertakings not to relet:—

Cox's Bungalow, Fortescue Lane	Demolition
22a Sheep Fair, 18th June, 1952	,,
32 Sheep Fair, 18th June, 1952	,,
Late Whittaker, Love Lane, 27th Oct. 1952 (Used for commercial purposes)	,,
Hayes Farm house, Brereton, 1st Dec., 1953	Undertaking
29a Horse Fair, 18th November, 1953 ... (Used for commercial purposes)	Closing Order
11 Sandy Lane, 9th August, 1946	Undertaking
Bradbury, Main Rd., Brereton, 11th Feb., 1954	Closing Order

Southwell, Main Rd., Brereton, 11th Feb., 1954	,,
Davis, Batesway, Brereton, 11th Feb., 1954 ...	,,
Richards, Batesway, Brereton, 11th Feb., 1954	,,
Fernlea Bungalow, Etching Hill, 22nd Sept., 1954	Demolition
22 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956	,,
46a Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956	,,
17 Horse Fair	Verbal Undertaking

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

In 1955 the second full year in which the gauges were in operation, the following results were obtained—

	Site 1 Solid Deposit tons/sq. ml./mth.		Site 1 Sulphur Dioxide mgm/sq. cm./day		Site 2 Sulphur Dioxide mgm/sq. cm./day		Rainfall
	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1955
January	7.94	10.16	1.41	1.10	1.46	2.13	1.80
February	13.75	9.97	1.59	1.23	1.84	2.22	2.48
March	11.32	12.17	1.24	0.93	1.18	1.61	3.09
April	8.21	7.27	0.83	0.58	0.95	1.11	1.54
May	14.63	10.31	1.32	0.59	1.28	0.92	4.06
June	12.00	11.44	0.54	0.45	0.72	0.74	3.40
July	11.50	10.17	0.71	0.46	0.55	0.77	0.75
August	21.99	5.60	0.32	0.69	0.76	0.48	1.14
September	9.94	10.74	0.35	0.36	0.89	0.54	2.44
October	10.44	9.80	0.50	0.55	1.31	1.03	1.81
November	12.37	9.74	0.73	0.89	1.60	1.53	2.45
December	11.20	7.97	0.65	0.81	1.26	2.55	1.81
Total for year	145.29	115.34	10.19	8.69	13.80	15.63	26.80
Monthly average	12.11	9.63	0.85	0.72	1.15	1.30	2.23

Site 1 is at the back of Eaton Lodge, Wolseley Road.

Site 2 is on open ground at St. Michael's Estate, Brereton.

As there are only four factories in the district which burn coal, it would appear that, as far as Rugeley is concerned, the chief offender is the domestic fire. The proximity of the main Euston—Crewe railway line and the factory at Colton Mill is offset by the prevailing westerly winds.

The amount of pollution is relatively low, compared with other authorities carrying out similar investigations, but it must be borne in mind that these authorities all contain sources of heavy atmospheric pollution.

	CAUSES OF DEATH	Males	Females
	ALL CAUSES	50	45
1	Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	—	—
2	Other forms of tuberculosis	—	1
3	Syphilis	1	—
4	Diphtheria	—	—
5	Whooping cough	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis	—	—
8	Measles	—	1
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	1
10	(Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	—	2
11	(Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	—
12	(Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	2
13	(Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—
14	(Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	3
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—
16	Diabetes	—	—
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	7	8
18	Coronary disease, angina	11	3
19	Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	1
20	Other heart disease	6	4
21	Other circulatory disease	—	2
22	Influenza	—	—
23	Pneumonia	—	1
24	Bronchitis	1	1
25	Other disease of respiratory system ...	—	—
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	—
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	4
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	2	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	3	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	1
31	Congenital malformations	3	1
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	4
33	Motor vehicle accidents	2	—
34	All other accidents	—	2
35	Suicide	—	2
36	Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—
	Special causes (included in No. 32 above)		
	Smallpox		
	Poliomyelitis		
	Polioencephalitis		
	Deaths of Infants under 1 year —(Total	4	4
	—(Legitimate	4	4
	(Illegitimate	—	—
	Live Births —(Total	124	137
	—(Legitimate	115	131
	(Illegitimate	9	6
	Stillbirths —(Total	8	1
	—(Legitimate	8	1
	(Illegitimate	—	—
	Population	11,120	

FACTORY ACT 1937

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number of			
	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	6	14	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	36	73	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	42	87	—	—

2. Cases in which **defects** were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	2	2	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	2	0	1	0

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES FLEMING,

Medical Officer of Health.

Report of the Public Health Inspector

Madam & Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting my 25th Annual Report dealing with the work carried out in my department during 1955.

Closet Accommodation

The town area is mostly sewered, only twelve houses (Fortescue Lane), have not been converted to the water carriage system.

Hednesford Road Area

During the year a new sewer has been constructed.

So far 29 houses have been connected to the new sewer.

The number of visits paid in connection with the giving of advice and the examination and testing of new drains was 110.

The following premises have not yet been connected:—

14 houses with W.C.'s to septic tanks, the owners of which have been asked to connect to the new sewer.

The owners of the following houses have not been asked to connect to the new sewer:—

Upper Birches Farm, over 100ft.
Lower Birches Farm, over 100ft.
Mr. L. C. Johnson's house, over 100ft.
Flaxley Green Farm, limited life.
Mr. G. Thomas's house, limited life.

Brereton Sewerage Scheme

Premises within 100ft. of new sewer

So far 326 properties out of the 342 have been connected to the new sewer.

There is no sewer available in, Wolseley Road (part), Etching Hill, and Slitting Mill, where the closet accommodation is as follows:—

Wolseley Road area.

40 premises with W.C.'s to Septic Tanks.

Etching Hill area.

116 premises with W.C.'s to Septic Tanks.
12 premises with pail closets.
2 premises with privy middens.

Slitting Mill area.

25 premises with W.C.'s to Septic Tanks.
25 premises with pail closets.
8 premises with privy middens.

Swimming Baths

There are no private swimming baths or pools in the area.

Public Cleansing

(a) **Dry House Refuse.**—The whole of the refuse of the district is removed by the Council's workmen in two covered vehicles, once every week. The Council carry out Controlled Tipping at the tip at the top of Springhill Terrace.

(b) **Contents of Pail Closets, Cesspools, etc.**—This is conveyed from the premises in a special trailer sludge tank. The pail closets are emptied at night once every week, 126 cesspools were emptied by the Council's workmen during the year, and the Mount Road tank was emptied 3 times.

Sanitary Improvements and Notices

Number of visits during the year, either in connection with Infectious Disease, or in course of investigating complaints, or in carrying out surveys amount to 2,674.

Number of **Statutory Notices** complied with: 76 as follows:—

Public Health Act, 1936

Section 39.	Defective or insufficient drainage	17
Section 44.	Insufficient closet accommodation	1
Section 45.	Defective closet accommodation	7
Section 75.	Provision of new dustbins	5
Section 83.	Cleansing of premises	10
Section 93.	Houses made fit or repaired	30
Section 269.	Caravans causing nuisance	6

Number of **Intimatory or Verbal Notices** complied with, 291 as follows:—

Dwelling houses made fit or repaired	29
Obsructed drains cleansed	15
Drains amended in construction	10
Water closet basins renewed	3
Water closet cisterns repaired or renewed	19
Closet structure repaired	9
Dustbins provided	37
New drainage constructed and connected to the new sewer	29
Animals improperly kept	12
Cesspools emptied or repaired	7
Burst water piping	28
Offensive accumulations	25
Dirty Houses	18
Caravans causing nuisance	4
Water supply provided over sinks	2

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

Walls of premises made washable	9
Premises redecorated	16
Provision of receptables for refuse	10
Sanitary conveniences repaired	6
Washing facilities provided	3

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by By-Laws or Regulations

There are no Common Lodging Houses in this District. There is a Tannery in the district. There are no underground sleeping places in the district. There are no By-Laws for:—Houses-let-in-Lodgings, tents, vans, sheds, etc., offensive trades, or Lodgings and accommodation for Hop-pickers.

Schools

In Rugeley Town and Brereton the sanitary conveniences are on the water carriage system. The Slitting Mill Schools have privy middens. The water supply to all the schools is received from the Council's mains.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

There are no premises in the district which are controllable by the Council under the Act, viz., Registered Premises, where filling materials are used in the manufacture of bedding, toys, upholstery, etc., or Licensed Premises, where rag flock is (a) manufactured or (b) stored for distribution to Registered Premises.

HOUSING

1. Unfit Dwelling Houses

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health Acts or Housing Acts 275
Number of Inspections made for that purpose 602

(2) Number of Houses inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 159
Number of inspections made for that purpose 502

(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as being unfit for human habitation ... 15

(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation 144

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defected dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 29

3. Action under Statutory Powers

Houses demolished or closed

(a)—Proceedings under Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Sec. 11) 10

(2) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Sec. 11 and still in force 0

(3) Parts of buildings closed (Sec. 12) 0

(b)—Proceedings under Housing Act, 1949, closed as a result of Closing Orders under Sec. 3 0

(c)—Proceedings under Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, Closed as a result Closing Orders under Sec. 10 and 11 5

Repairs

(a)—Proceedings under Public Health Acts. Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.

(1) By owners 30
(2) By local authority in default 0

(b)—Proceedings under Housing Act, 1936. Houses made fit after service of formal notice.

(1) By owners 85
(2) By local authority in default 0

RODENT CONTROL

The work of dealing with infestations has been carried out throughout the year under my supervision.

During the year the part time Rodent Operative was on duty 511 hours. Of this 77 hours were spent on treating the Council's property such as sewage work, refuse tips, etc., 324 hours were spent at private houses, canal banks, hedge rows etc., and the remaining 110 hours were spent on either rechargeable work at business premises, or the general inspection of business premises.

In addition to the above the baiting of sewers was again carried out twice yearly.

CARAVANS

Public Health Act, 1936 Section 269

There are 13 caravans licensed under the above Act within the Urban District.

No nuisance has resulted from the caravans during the year.

The names of those holding licenses and the site of each caravan are as follows:—

Mr. J. L. Harris	Palfreyman's Yard, Sheep Fair.
Mr. D. B. Brown	Rear of Brereton Levels Stores.
Mr. S. A. Eadon	Lea Hall Colliery.
Mr. C. W. H. Robson ...	42 Bow Street.
Mr. F. M. Hill	"Sunnybank," Slitting Mill.
Mr. F. E. Burton	Love Lane.
Mrs. A. Pye	"Kentish", Etching Hill.
Mr. F. E. Cope	"Dresdene", Garden Drive.
Mr. L. Hill	Palfreyman's Yard, Sheep Fair.
Mr. S. G. Collier	Talbot Road, Brereton.
Mr. L. Kitching	Trent Farm, Station Rd.
Mr. L. G. Evans	16 Bryans Lane
Mr. R. Deadman	"Alma Dene", Garden Drive.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Food Premises in the District

Wet fish shops	1
Combined fruit, vegetable and wet fish shops	5
Butchers shops	11
Cafes	9
Bakehouses	4
Fried fish shops	2
General shops for the sale of sweets, grocery, provisions, fruit and vegetables	36
Sweet shops	5
Cake shops	6
Fruit and vegetable shops	1

2. Premises Registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and the Ice Cream Regulations

(a)	For the preparation or manufacture of cooked meats, etc.	12
(b)	For the manufacture of ice cream by hot mix	0
(c)	For the manufacture of ice cream by cold mix	2
(d)	For the sale and storage of ice cream only. Such ice cream being purchased from the leading ice cream manufacturers	34

3. Milk Supply

In the District we have registered three retail purveyors of milk who are not cowkeepers. We have three other retail purveyors whose dairies are situated outside our District. The Staffordshire County Council carried out sampling and examination of milk for bacterial contents and for tubercle bacilli.

MILK (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) REGULATIONS, 1949

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949

Dealers' licences granted under these Regulations authorising the use of a Special Designation are held by the following:—

Rugeley Co-operative Society	"Pasteurised Milk," Sterilised Milk" and "Tuberculin Tested Milk."
Mrs. M. L. Carney, Rugeley	"Pasteurised Milk," Sterilised Milk" and "Tuberculin Tested Milk."
Mr. C. A. Pratt, Rugeley ...	"Pasteurised Milk," Sterilised Milk" and "Tuberculin Tested Milk."
Mr. C. Southwell, Rugeley	"Pasteurised Milk," Sterilised Milk" and "Tuberculin Tested Milk."
Mr. A. C. Conway, Armitage	"Pasteurised Milk," Sterilised Milk" and "Tuberculin Tested Milk."
Mr. E. Taylor, Rugeley ...	"Tuberculin Tested Milk."

4. (a) Number of inspections of registered food premises ... 197

 (b) Number of inspections of food premises to which Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 applies 497

 (c) Number of notices complied with
 See Sanitary Improvements and Notices

5. Advice is given to food handlers during visits to food premises and clean food leaflets and circulars are issued at regular intervals.

6. Methods of disposal of condemned foods

(a) Meat. At Mr. Parker's slaughterhouse by removal after staining to the Knacker's Yard for sale as animal food. At other slaughterhouses it is stained by Inspector and afterwards destroyed by burning or boiled for animal food in accordance with the Ministry of Food's Circular 21/53.

(b) Other foods. Tins pierced, jars etc. broken. Contents of same and other foods buried at refuse tip.

7. It has not been found necessary to examine any special consignment or stock of food during the year. Mostly on request for examination by the provision merchants the following were found to be unfit for human consumption:—

325 tins tomatoes, 252 tins fruit, 187 tins meat, 82 tins milk, 61 tins peas, 29 tins fish, 16 tins beans, 14 tins soup, 12 tins apple pudding, 2 tins spaghetti, 2 tins meat paste, 1 tin Milo, 3 bottles pickles, 2 jars marmalade, 13 packets shredded coconut, 5lb. butter, 9½lb. boiled ham, 14lb. cake, 14lb. cheese, 24lb. dripping, 40 bags carrots.

8. **Adulteration, etc.** This is not an authority for enforcing the Acts and Regulations referred to under this head.

9. **Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.** The Staffordshire County Council has provided laboratories and carries out such work.

MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Goats
Number killed (if known	494	533	86	1,830	965	175	1
Number inspected	494	533	86	1,830	965	175	1
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci							
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	42	2	7	3	2	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	16	177	1	24	1	1	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	3.2%	41.0%	3.5%	1.7%	0.4%	1.7%	100%
Tuberculosis only:							
Whole carcases condemned ...	1	52	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	37	123	—	—	36	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	7.7%	32.0%	—	—	3.7%	—	—
Cysticercosis							
Carcases of which some part or organ was concondemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Most of the cows slaughtered were at Mr. A. Parker's Slaughterhouse. The condemned percentage figures are on the high side because this is a casualty station for the emergency slaughter of animals from the districts surrounding Rugeley. It is also used by the Ministry of Agriculture Inspectors for the slaughter of animals under the T.B. Order.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND KNACKERS' YARDS

Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 57.

There are five slaughter houses and one knacker's yard licensed under the above Act within the district. They are as follow :—

Slaughterhouse, Love Lane. Owner Mr. A. Parker.
Slaughterhouse, Upper Brook Street. Owner Mr. R. Sanders.
Slaughterhouse, Horse Fair. Owner Mr. Astbury.
Slaughterhouse, Upper Brook Street. Owner Mr. A. J. Toy.
Slaughterhouse, Brereton. Owner Mr. R. Sanders.
Knackers Yard, Turkeyshall Lane. Owner Mr. A. Parker.

SLAUGHTER-MEN

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933 and 1951

The following is a list of persons licensed to slaughter or stun animals in slaughter-houses and knackers' yards.

Mr. A. Astbury, Holly Lodge, Sandy Lane, Rugeley.
Mr. E. E. Upton, Wolseley Road, Rugeley.
Mr. G. Parker, Bridge House, Love Lane, Rugeley.
Mr. P. Parker, Bridge House, Love Lane, Rugeley.
Mr. J. V. Toy, 14 Upper Brook Street, Rugeley.
Mr. D. O. Sanders, Horse Fair, Rugeley.
Mr. A. E. Chinnock, 75 Queen Street, Rugeley.
Mr. R. W. Wallbank, 7 Mossley, Rugeley.
Mr. S. R. Sanders, 30b Horse Fair, Rugeley.
Mr. J. K. Rosser, 1 Redbrook Lane, Brereton.
Mr. J. Bentley, 54 Lion Street, Rugeley.
Mr. B. Savage, Brewery Yard, Great Haywood.
Mr. K. A. Hollins, 48 Queen Street, Rugeley.
Mr. F. Southwell, " Hillcrest," Hednesford Road, Rugeley.

WATER SUPPLY

The Council obtain their water in bulk from the South Staffordshire Water Company. This supply has been satisfactory (a) in quality, and (b) in quantity.

In addition to the samples we submit to the County Analyst and County Bacteriologist, the Water Works Company take frequent samples of the raw water for bacteriological and chemical examination (a) before treatment, (b) after treatment, and (c) from taps in our district.

The supply is a constant one, **and does not have a plumbo-solvent action.** There was no action in respect of any form of contamination during the year.

The following are reports of samples of the Council's Public Water Supply:—

ANALYST'S REPORT— Parts per 100,000

Total solid matter dried at 212° F	28.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	0.40
Chlorine	2.80
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80° F.	Nil
Appearance—Clear, except for minute trace of suspended matter.	
Injurious Metallic contamination	Nil
pH Value	7.4
Total Hardness	14.2°
Permanent Hardness	5.9°
Temporary Hardness	8.3°

REMARKS:—This water is chemically of satisfactory quality.

BACTERIOLOGIST'S REPORT—

Probable number of coliform bacilli, Mac Conkey 2 days, 37° C:—
Nil per 100 m.l.

Two dwelling houses occupied by 8 persons at Bower Lane, Etching Hill obtain their water supply from a well. The water from this well is unfit for drinking purposes.

It is estimated that 3,405 dwelling houses occupied by 11,112 persons are supplied from the public mains. As far as these houses are concerned, 3,402 dwelling houses occupied by 11,102 persons have the supply directly over the sinks. The remaining 3 houses occupied by 10 persons obtain the public supply from a stand pipe in the yard.

PETROLEUM (Regulation) ACTS, 1928 and 1936.
Petroleum (Mixtures) Order, 1929.

Licences were granted subject to the licensees complying with the Council's regulations and the Chief Fire Officer's recommendations.

The premises licensed within the Urban District are listed below :—

Palfreyman's Yard, Sheep Fair—Mr. A. Manton	500 gallons
Garage, Brereton Road—Messrs. J. Edwards & Son ...	2,500 gallons
Garage, Wolseley Road—Messrs. J. S. Pendlebury & Son ...	2,000 gallons
Garage, Anson Street—Fred Degg Ltd.	1,000 gallons
Garage, Bees, Lane—Messrs. J. Edwards & Son	1,300 gallons
Garage, Wolseley Road—Mr. S. Cubley	2,500 gallons
Mr. D. Rowley, Main Road, Brereton	500 gallons
Brereton Colliery, National Coal Board	500 gallons
Garage, Market Street—Mr. B. Oakley	1,000 gallons
Garage, Armitage Road—Mr. A. R. Harding	2,000 gallons
Garage, Elmore Lane—Messrs. M. A. & C. J. Whieldon ...	1,000 gallons
Brereton Wharves Ltd., Wharf Road	500 gallons
Mr. C. S. Hulse, "Stoneleigh," Etching Hill	250 gallons
Mr. A. Parker, Bridge House, Love Lane	500 gallons
Electronic Products, Ravenhill	250 gallons
Carney Bros., Brewery Street	500 gallons
Stokes & Co., Phoenix Tannery, Bryans Lane	1,500 gallons
Rugeley Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd.	750 gallons
Staffordshire Fire Brigade, Taylors Lane	40 gallons
B. Sunley and Sons Ltd., Wolseley Road	2,000 gallons
Mr. G. Toy, Cason House, Wolseley Road	500 gallons
Messrs. J. Laing & Sons Ltd., Lea Hall Colliery	25 gallons
E. Pinchess & Co., Mill Lane	25 gallons
Lotus Ltd., Market Square	10 gallons

HOUSING POINTS SCHEME

During 1950 the Council adopted a points scheme introduced by Alderman Newman for dealing with applications for Council houses. The Council asked for my co-operation in the scheme.

When the scheme was introduced I visited all the applicants on the list to ascertain (1) possible overcrowding, (2) possible sexual overcrowding, (3) condition of properties occupied by applicants, and (4) the particulars necessary for allotting the remaining points.

Each year since then it has been necessary to visit each new applicant during the year and all the old applicants remaining on the list. When these particulars have been obtained the Housing Committee have held special points meetings and the revised points have been fixed for each applicant. The points list has then been exhibited to the general public.

In my opinion the scheme has proved very satisfactory and the applicants are more satisfied with it that they were with arrangements prior to 1950.

The Housing Points Scheme with amendments up to date is as follows:—

1. No application will be considered for points allocation until the applicant has been on the housing list for a period of 12 months.
2. A maximum of 20 points to be allocated at the rate of 2 per year of married life which the applicant has spent in lodgings. (Only applicable where applicant is in lodgings at time of consideration for tenancy of house.)
3. A maximum of 10 points to be allocated at the rate of 1 per year in which the applicant has lived in overcrowded conditions.
4. A maximum of 10 points to be additionally allocated to people living in sexually overcrowded conditions, allocated at the rate of 1 per year in such conditions.
5. A maximum of 5 points to be allocated at the rate of 1 per year to applicants who are living in property to be made fit for habitation, which when surrendered will not be re-let until such conditions are fulfilled.
6. A maximum of 5 points to be allocated to applicants where a Medical Certificate is supplied from some Authority, (not Local Practitioners) certifying some unusual extenuating circumstances. (Certificates by Practitioners shall be disregarded under this paragraph but may be taken into consideration under Paragraph 8.)
7. Five to 10 points to be added to total points (in relation to paragraphs 3 and 4) arising from state of accommodation based on Sanitary Inspector's Report.
8. A floating 10 points to be allocated by the Council under the following headings:—
 (a) In cases where special housing hardship arises and is not covered by any of the preceding provisions.
 (b) Loss of points incurred under paragraphs 3 and 4 by initiative in obtaining improved conditions.

NOTES

Paragraphs 2, 3 and 4—Only periods of lodging or tenancy in the Urban District shall qualify for points allocation. (Extended on 9th October, 1951 to applicants at Wolseley Road Camp provided they were already on the Council's register.)

Paragraphs 3 and 4—In calculating sex overcrowding it shall be assumed that the accommodation is sexually overcrowded if the man and wife are compelled to separate for sleeping purposes to prevent adults of opposite sexes from sleeping in the same room.
Under the Housing Act, 1936, living rooms are counted as well as bedrooms but under this scheme the first living room shall be ignored.

Paragraph 7—Under the Housing Act, 1936, a house shall be deemed to be overcrowded if **"any two persons,** being of 10 years or more of opposite sexes, and not being persons living together as man and wife must sleep in the same room." It will be seen that this applies only to cases where **two persons** are over ten. Points shall therefore be given under paragraph 7 to cover cases where there is one person over ten and another person of the opposite sex under ten years of age sleeping in the same room. Points shall be also given under Paragraph 7 for overcrowding caused by the presence of the applicant's family **although not themselves overcrowded.**
(The standard laid down by the Housing Act, 1936 in connection with overcrowding shall be adopted with the above modifications).

ALTERATIONS TO THE SCHEME PASSED BY THE HOUSING COMMITTEE ON 26th OCTOBER, 1954

1. Applicants now residing at the Wolseley Road Camp and already on the Housing List be given lodging points up to 1951, and overcrowding etc., points up to 1st January, 1953 or the date when overcrowding ceased whichever is earlier.
2. That in cases where applicants were in lodgings when investigation was made in 1950, but have since become tenants of houses within the District but not at the Wolseley Road Camp, lodging points be allotted up to the date they became tenants and overcrowding etc., points up to the date that overcrowding ceased.
3. In cases where lodger applicants have relieved overcrowding by securing better lodgings, points shall be given only up to the date when overcrowding ceased, the question of any additional points under paragraph 8 (c) to be decided by the committee.

Applicants who have applied for a Council House since 15th August, 1950

4. Points in these cases are now not to be given for all periods of lodgings or tenancy in the Urban District **but only from date of application.**
5. That applicants who are residing at the Wolseley Road Camp and who are not yet on the Housing List shall be given points only in those cases where they were residing within the Urban District and had made application prior to moving to the Camp.
6. In future where any pre-war Council houses become vacant they shall be offered in the first instance to applicants who are on the "Waiting at Own Request" list in the order in which they appear on that list but if any of those applicants refuse the houses offered, they shall be considered as having lost their points and shall be treated as new applicants from the date of refusal to accept the pre-war house.
7. In future no further applicants shall be added to the "Waiting at Own Request" list, and in all future cases where a house allocated to applicants is refused, such applicants shall lose their existing points and be treated as new applicants from the date of refusal of the house allocated.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. T. G. Craddock.